

## Message Text

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ACTION OPIC-06

INFO OCT-01 ARA-14 ISO-00 EPAE-00 EB-08 COME-00 OES-09  
CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 TRSE-00 AID-05 L-03 /056 W  
-----046769 161035Z /15

R 141508Z JUL 78  
FM AMEMBASSY SANTO DOMINTO  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5305

UNCLAS SANTO DOMINGO 3838

EO 11652 NA  
TAGS: EINV, DR  
SUB: OPIC ENVIRONMENTAL MONITORING PROGRAM-ROSARIA DOMINICANA

REF: STATE 94327,

1. ACCORDING TO LOCAL OFFICIALS OF COMPANY AS WELL AS RESPONSIBLE  
GODR OFFICIAL, ROSARIO DOMINICANA ADHERES TO U.S. STANDARDS WITH  
REGARD TO PROTECTION OF THE ENVIRONMENT. THE GODR DOES NOT HAVE  
ENVIRONMENTAL LAWS AND REGULATIONS. IT IS GENERALLY RECOGNIZED  
THAT THE PROJECT IS MAKING CONCERNED EFFORTS TO PROECT THE EN-  
VIRONMENT.

2. THERE HAVE BEEN NO DISPUTES BETWEEN ROSARIO AND THE GODR  
GOVERNMENT AGENCIES OVER ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES. IN THE PAST,  
THE LOCAL CITIZENRY HAD RAISED COMPLAINTS OVER ALLEGED CONTAMINATION  
OF LIVESTOCK AND LOCAL WATER SOURCES. THE PROJECT NOW IS  
SURROUNDED BY A FENCE TO KEEP OUT ANY STRAY ANIMALS. IN AN INTERVIEW  
WITH ECONOFF, THE MINING ADVISOR TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR  
INDUSTRY  
AND COMMERCE, REFERRING TO PAST COMPLAINTS OF WATER POLLUTION,  
STATED THAT CONTAMINATION IS NOW AT A QUOTE TOLERABLE LEVEL  
UNQUOTE.

ROSARIO CLAIMS THAT THE WATER CONTAMINATION IN THE AREA WAS  
NEVER THE RESULT OF ITS PROJECT. ROSARIO SAID THAT SEVERAL  
YEARS AGO IT HAD SENT CONTAMINATED FISH TO A LABORATORY IN  
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PUERTO RICO TO BE DIAGNOSED, AND THE LABORATORY FOUND THAT THE  
SOURCE OF POLLUTION WAS 100 MILES FROM THE MINE.

3. OUTSIDE THE LOCAL AREA IN WHICH THE ROSARIO PROJECT OPERATES,  
THERE IS NOT MUCH PUBLIC CONCERN WITH ROSARIO'S PROTECTION OR  
ABUSE OF THE ENVIRONMENT. ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS ARE JUST  
BEGINNING TO BE FELT IN THE DR. A LOCAL COMMITTEE COMPOSED OF

THREE CAMPESIONOS, THE BISHOP OF LA VEGA, THE GOVERNOR OF THE CENTRAL BANK, THE LOCAL MANAGER OF ROSARIO AND HEAD OF ROSARIO WAS SET UP TO DEAL WITH, AMONG OTHER THINGS, COMPLAINTS FROM THE LOCAL CITIZENRY. IN PRACTICE, THESE GRIEVANCES ARE USUALLY HANDLED BY THE FIRST FOUR MEMBERS. LOCAL COMPLAINTS AT ROSARIO OPERATIONS, WHICH WERE FAIRLY NUMEROUS WHEN THE PROJECT WAS STARTED SEVERAL YEARS, AGO, HAVE NOW SUBSIDED.

4. ROSARIO ALSO HAS A PROGRAM OF FORESTATION, AS OPPOSED TO RE-FORESTATION, SINCE THE AREA HARDLY HAD ANY TREES WHEN THE PROJECT WAS COMMENCED SEVERAL YEARS AGO.

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## Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** MONITORING, POLLUTION CONTROL, STANDARDS, PROGRAMS (PROJECTS)  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
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**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**TAGS:** EINV, DR  
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